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DISCUSSION

Issued by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Canada

No. 2, Sept. 1, 1936

COMMUNIST PARTY DOMINION HEADQUARTERS
77 ADELAIDE STREET WEST, TORONTO, ONTARIO



Price 3 cents

Provincial Convention in B.C. Will Open on September Fifth

Agenda Is Released; Press and Public Invited
To First Session

Vancouver, B.C.—The agenda for the British Columbia Provincial Convention of the Communist Party of Canada to be held in Vancouver on September 5th, 6th and 7th has been released to the press.

On the eve of the opening of the convention, September 4th, a mass meeting will be held in some large hall. The first session of the convention will be open to the press and the public. Later sessions will be open to party members only on issuance of guest cards.

In preparation for the Provincial Convention section conferences are now being held in all localities.

Fraternel delegates are being invited from the Party organizations in Alberta, Washington, Oregon, California and Alaska.

The agenda of the convention is as follows:

1. Opening address—W. Bennett
2. Election of Committees:
 - a. Credentials
 - b. Resolutions
 - c. Constitution and by-laws
 - d. Convention Committee
 - e. Education and Publicity
 - f. Agrarian
 - g. Nominations and Elections
3. How Can the People of B.C. Be Saved from Ruin?
4. Reports: Malcolm Bruce
- In the course of this discussion:
 - a. Unemployment—will be handled
 - b. Unemployment—the unorganized—Tom Even
 - c. The Plight of the Unemployed—R. Leases
 - d. The Farmers' Problems—W. Baker
5. What Lies Ahead for B. C. Youth—Reporter: W. Palmer
6. Building the Working-Class Party—Reporter: F. A. McKean
7. Reports of Committees.
8. Election of Provincial Committee
9. Election of delegates to National Convention.
10. Fifty years of B. C. Labor Movement.
- Reporter: W. Bennett
11. Closing Address by Provincial President.

Party Districts Fix Convention Dates

Port Arthur, Ont.: The convention of the Communist Party organizations in the Port Arthur District will take place on September 5th and 6th, according to a statement just issued from the local Party headquarters.

The agenda for the Convention will be as follows:

1. The situation in the district and the building of the Farmer-Labor Party.
2. Organizational report:
 - (a) Building the Communist Party.
 - (b) The Daily Clarion.
3. Building the Youth Movement.
4. Election of delegates to the National Party convention.

NOVA SCOTIA WILL
ELECT DELEGATES
Glouce Bay, N.S., Aug. 18: September 20th is the date set for the District Convention of the Communist Party in the Maritimes, it was announced here today. Delegates to the National Convention will be elected at that time.

Write Today— Don't Delay!

Indications are that friends intending to participate in the pre-convention discussion are waiting for the last issue before sending in their contributions.

Perhaps they hope to have the last word, but they are running the risk of leaving no audience. This issue is delayed because of the slow inflow of articles.

Editorial staff such as "DISCUSSION" cannot be written by its Editor or an editorial staff.

If all would-be contributors wait for the last issue there will be less issues printed and it will be impossible to print all contributions received.

Don't delay! Write today!

Post your contribution to the Discussion immediately to:

Editorial Staff
"Discussion,"
77 Adelaide St. W. Toronto, Ont.

THE DUTY OF EACH DELEGATE

By LESLIE MORRIS

THE eight convention of our Party must be a rallying point for all the forces making for working class unity and for a united people's front for democracy and peace. It is no exaggeration to say that not only 11,000 members of the Communist Party but many thousands of workers and non-party people will be directly influenced by the sessions of our convention at which more than 300 delegates from all ten Party districts will be present, together with hundreds of visitors.

Because of the stern struggle for the Party has waged for legality, it will once more be possible to hold our convention in the broad light of day for the first time since 1920. Most of its sessions will be open to the public and to the press. The key-note speeches by Tim Buck and others will be public statements—not only, as in the past, in print-form—but accessible to the masses by radio, press and personal attendance.

This means that our convention sessions should be well organized. Contributions to the discussion on the part of active party workers from each district should be carefully prepared beforehand with the aim not of reciting the inner-party details of past work, as is so often the case, but of explaining in the most popular and easily-understood manner the course of the labor and people's movement, the problems of mass work in the present, the living conditions of workers, farmers and middle class folk, and what must be done by the party, the C. C. F., and the unions to release into a flood-tide of mass activity those forces of labor which are welling up in all localities.

QUALITATIVE CHANGE

I believe the agenda of the convention as prepared by the last annual session of our Central Committee, gives a clear indication of what the Party leadership has in mind for the coming year. Compare the published agenda with that of previous conventions and you will see its form, clear and wording and sound appeal.

To regard this as merely a "change in language" would be wrong. It simply reflects the way in which the Party has pol-

Thirteen Thousand in Arena To Be at Convention Opening

Many Committees Working for Success of
Eight Convention of Communist Party

Toronto, Ont.—Friday, October 9th is the red letter date that will go down in the history of the Canadian labor movement. That is the date that has now been definitely decided upon for the opening session of the Eighth National Convention of the Communist Party of Canada.

The first session at which Tim Buck will report for the Central Committee on "The Road Ahead for Canada" will be held in the biggest auditorium it has been possible to obtain in Toronto. The Mutual Street Arena seating 13,000 has been rented for the occasion and negotiations are now being pursued to arrange for a radio hook-up of at least some sections of the report.

Thus tens of thousands of workers, farmers and middle class people will be participating in the opening sessions of the convention and will undoubtedly continue to follow carefully the further work and decision of the convention.

At the present time many committees are actively engaged looking after all phases of convention preparations.

In addition to Committees for housing of delegates, hall decorations and publicity, various sub-committees are also being organized to arrange for exhibitions that will be on display at the Convention hall. At the present time arrangements are being made not only for an exhibition of leaflets, posters, newspapers and other means of printed publicity issued by the Communist Party, but also for an exhibition of historical interest showing the origins and the development of trade union, socialist and general labor movement in Canada. Readers of "Discussion" having documents, books, letters, newspapers that would be of interest for such an exhibition are asked to inform this paper immediately if they would be willing to loan such materials for the exhibition for the duration of the convention.

Toronto Ward Two Discusses Party Work

Toronto, Ont.—Pre-convention discussion of the Party line and its application to local conditions was commenced in Ward 2, Toronto, at a mass meeting of members and sympathizers on Thursday, August 13, at the ward headquarters, 420 Parliament street.

In spite of the almost stifling heat of the night, the assembled working men and women sat intently through a three hour meeting and a total of 28 people took part in the discussion. Dr. Steele, section organizer, opened the meeting with a short report of the line and a critical analysis of the work of the ward organization in its application.

After discussion closed, Comrade Annie Butler, representing the District Committee, summed up briefly, stressing the importance of factory organization in the metal and other war industries located in the ward and the need for the development of workers and youth. Comrade Tom Jones, ward chairman of the Party, was in the chair.



unity for one moment to decrease our political vigilance or initiative would be a serious mistake. Comrades may at times be prone to allow this to happen. What is our Party in need of most at the present time? Boldness in applying the united front tactic and in breaking down any sectarian barriers, both in our Party structure and in our minds; flexibility in approaching the masses and in finding new forms to set them into motion and to give direction to their break-away from the old capitalist parties and customs; increased independent party mass work to give clear direction and vigorous leadership to that steadily-growing disgust with capitalism which expresses itself today in a thousand forms.

None of these can be fulfilled without a large army of devoted Party workers who are constantly moved forward to take up leading work, and who are not solely "inner-Party" people but well-known and respected mass figures. To develop such a group it is necessary that the greatest amount of initiative and originality

SEE PAGE TWO

Bread, Butter, Meat and Milk

Convention Should Prepare Party to Fight Against Speculation and Rapidly Rising Prices

By D. J. M.

Nothing will bring the Communist Party nearer to the hearts of the masses, nothing will make it a stronger Party of the working people, more than the defense of the bread and butter of the men, women and children of this country.

Not only our defense of the pay envelope and the miserable relief pittance, but our concern for the real purchasing power involved will bring us as trusted friends into the home of the unemployed and the wage-earner.

This fall and winter a well-planned and concerted assault will be made by the capitalists and manufacturers upon the meagre purses of the worker and unemployed. Bad crops and drought in the Western Provinces and in part of Ontario will be capitalized by the manufacturers for an increase in prices on commodities, unparalleled in the history of Canada.

While it is customary for the manufacturers to boost their prices with the advent of every winter, this year's drought, which is used as a pretext to raise prices not only on commodities directly affected by the drought but also on other merchandise of primary necessity.

Speculation and price-boosting, a well planned whispering campaign about the shortage of raw materials for all commodities, press propaganda depicting the high prices paid by the manufacturers for these materials—all these factors will be brought in to play in order to justify further enrichment of the manufacturers and the wholesale dealers.

Already the reactionary "Toronto Evening Telegram" in an editorial of August 19th entitled "Higher Cost of Food not to be Deported," says:

"Living costs have increased probably continue to go up during the coming year. Foodstuffs are leading the advance. The increases that are due to the widespread drought this year are regrettable because in those instances crop shortage is responsible and nobody benefits. But the slow steady march toward higher levels should not be confused with the sharp and temporary advance caused by the exceptionally dry weather. Its causes are different and its results will be good. Higher prices for farm products must keep the farmers out of the mire for urban products. Better rural incomes mean greater purchasing power. That in turn stimulates industry and business and creates new employment. Relief bills drop accordingly."

"SO THE URBANITE SHOULD NOT TOO MUCH REMIND THE HIGHER FOOD BILLS. They mean a little greater outlay on his part, but they mean, too, an improvement in the community income from which he also stands to benefit."

This is another means of slashing wages and of reducing unemployment relief. It goes with-

out saying that while the prices on foodstuffs and other commodities will jump sky high, the capitalists will do nothing voluntarily to proportionately increase wages, nor will the Government do anything to increase the relief allowance.

STOCKS RISING

Already prices on foodstuffs of first importance, such as bread, butter and eggs have gone up. In many cities, bakers have raised the price on bread one cent per loaf of one pound eggs have gone up about 10 cents a dozen and the price of butter is rising.

Speculators are rubbing their hands and are filling up cold storage space with food products and other commodities to an extent unheard of in the last decade.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports that on August 1st, Canada's cold storage warehouses contained 11,238,735 pounds of creamery butter, an increase of 823,440 pounds as compared with August last last year. Pork weighing 35,755,928 pounds as against last year's 25,613,885 pounds, beef amounting to 11,797,265 pounds as against last year's 8,810, 864 pounds, veal weighing 3,896,988 pounds as against last year's 3,181,977 pounds, poultry totaling 4,177, 968 as against last year's 2,961,877 pounds. All these supplies will be blamed on the drought and many millions of pounds of others have been tucked away in the expectation of reaping great profits at the expense of the meagre allowances of the unemployed and low wages of the workers.

It is only August now. More stock will go into cold storage during September and even in October. Thus as winter approaches prices will be rising; especially in the months of February and March, when the average supply of the housewife is gone and the farmer has taken from the summer, will the speculator and the manufacturer boost the prices on foodstuffs a second height. This will be the effect on the milk of the babies and the bread of the workers be felt most acutely. Everything on the drought and bad crops; shoes, rent coal, wood and commodities which could not be so easily directed by the had crop will undoubtedly also go up in price.

FARMERS BUY LESS

Alfred P. Sloan, Jr., President of the powerful General Motors in U. S. A. gives in his bi-monthly report a good hint of what is to be expected. This is fully subscribed to by Mr. F. B. Houser, Financial Editor of the "Toronto Star," who says that "the farmer is apparently not completely convinced as many seem to be that the rise in farm prices is the result of the drought is going to offset the general curtailment," Mr. Sloan, "knows that

the effect of the dry summer in 1935 will not be felt in their full effect for some time, PROBABLELY NOT UNTIL TOWARDS THE EARLY SPRING OF 1937."

The farmer's income is a matter of special concern for the manufacturers for they are working on the contention that prices on farm products will go up to an unheard of height. But they are also afraid that the farmer's total purchasing power will be reduced in spite of higher prices on farm produce. According to Mr. Houser, "there is a large minority to which some of the banks belong, who hold to this view."

The situation is therefore that both the farmer and the worker, as also of course the unemployed, are faced with the grave menace of a drastic reduction in purchasing power that may endanger the very life and health of their families. To a family on relief living on a few dollars a week and allotted 4 1/2 cents per bread, a cent extra on a loaf of bread, a cent on a quart of milk, several cents on a pound of potatoes, is a matter of vital importance.

A concerted, united effort of both the unemployed and workers is thus necessary in order to stop Capital's rush for more profit.

WOMEN TO FIGHT

How can we defend the baby's milk and other necessities? What can we do in order to curb the appetites of the wolves who are lying in ambush and waiting until the sun of the summer has gone, so that with the darkness of the winter they can jump on

us and squeeze out of us as much strength and vitality, deprive us of as much food and money as legally permissible?

Last year when the prices on meat in some of Montreal's butcher shops went up, housewives picketed the shops involved and compelled the butchers to drop the price. This course of action is a palliative measure which can be applied in certain cases.

Women especially can play a most important role in the fight for the preservation of the purchasing power of the family budget.

Women carry the worry of putting food on the table. The organization of women is of utmost importance in the fight against the speculators and profiteers.

In Hamtramck near Detroit, a nation wide movement was born last year out of the protests manifested by housewives on account of the rise of prices on meat. The indignation overflowed Hamtramck and reached Detroit. Later Mary Zuk was elected to the Hamtramck City Council as a result of her leadership in helping housewives to fight for lower prices.

Consumer's committees sprang up and offered a stiff resistance to high prices on different commodities especially on foodstuffs. Strong delegations to the authorities, great demonstrations of women and picketing of stores helped considerably to strengthen the fight.

Particularly sharply will the booting of prices affect the meagre pitances of the unemployed families living on relief. The booting them of foodstuffs of the first necessity. The fight for the lowering of the prices for the unemployed leads directly to the question of increasing of relief allowances, just as in the factories, union organization and the fight for higher wages will be come more urgent.

The Communist Party as a party which has the interest of the masses at heart, can come still closer to the people by assuming leadership in checking

the hoarding of prices and in curbing the appetites of the manufacturers and speculators.

WATCH PRICES

Special Committees, who will have as their task the close watching of all prices of necessities and commodities of primary necessity, can call on public opinion to express their vigorous disapproval of all profiteering meetings, protests, delegations to the proper authorities etc.

Leaflets, articles and letters in the newspapers, and other means can be used in order to arouse the sympathy of the masses at large against the hoarding of prices out of proportion with the existing shortage of raw materials.

In special cases and in special districts the Communist Party is having a very important co-operation with other progressive and labor and co-operative organizations.

In New Zealand the new Labor Government has passed a law, making the increase in price on foodstuffs and commodities of primary necessity an indictable offence unless the manufacturer can prove that there is sufficient reason for such a boost of prices.

Immediately in Canada it is at least feasible to build-up and maintain organization that will bring the onslaught of the speculators against the bread of the masses promptly into the light and will, through boycotts, picketing meetings and delegations fight for prices to remain within the reach of the poor and needy.

Let us discuss this highly important matter let us work out the steps to take in order to meet this daylight robbery in an organized and determined manner. Let us unite other organizations and present an iron wall representing the determination of the working class to protect their daily bread and butter against the speculative wolves.

THE DUTY OF EACH DELEGATE

FROM PAGE ONE

shall be shown in daily work, at the same time that we are vigilant and always on the look-out for anything that will take the struggle off the class rails.

WANTED: PROPOSALS

Our convention delegates can give a lead in this direction. Each delegate, having the full and democratic right to express his opinions, must feel bound to give leadership to the convention, to introduce for discussion new suggestions for work, on the basis of searching self-criticism to point out what must be done to overcome our weaknesses. In this manner political unity can be made effective by being fused with fearless self-criticism and constructive suggestions for bringing the Party more deeply into the gathering stream of political life.

We have the chance at our eighth convention, giving to the workers of Canada an example of what a workers' party can and should be like.

In the delegation meetings

before the opening of the convention on October 3, practical discussion proposals should be made so that the contributions of each district to the convention can be determined beforehand. In such instances it will be impossible to hold such meetings because of geographical limitations. In those cases the district Party committees, section committees and at times the units themselves should talk over with the delegates what they should bring to the notice of the Party.

A few suggestions along this line are in order: What can be done to increase the circulation of the Daily Clarion and Clarion Weekly; how have relations with the C. P. F. and non-party workers proceeded and how do they stand now; what has the Party done regarding such clearance; why has the campaign for unemployment insurance lagged; what has the Party carrying out the aim of the recent enlarged Central Committee meeting—to press for union crusades to organize thousands into the A. F. of L. what is being done to interest middle class people in the fight for peace, and what is being

done to build the League against War and Fascism; what has the Party done to organize and recruit women into the Party, to win our young people, to care for workers' children; what are the moods of the farmers and how are they being attracted by our Party's work; why the Party does not grow more quickly; the prospects for the factories, shops and mines; how promotion of new leaders is being carried on, and what experiences have been gained in this regard.

The main reports at our convention will summarize the lessons of the past and will give a clear perspective for the future. But it will remain for the delegates from the Party districts to simplify and round out the main reports.

Our convention must not produce dry, academic discussions. We must set the aim of making it a living, cross-section of the life of the problems of Canadian toilers. This can only be done if the delegates carefully plan their speeches. Our Party on October 9 must be a "committee of the whole" to chart the next stages in the fight for labor and people's unity.

No Relief from Unemployment in Sight

By
H. MURPHY
TORONTO

Unemployment Insurance More Urgent In View of Municipal Bankruptcy

ACCOMPANIED by the shouts of jubilation of the boss class at returning prosperity in Canada are frantic cries for economy in expenditures for relief to the unemployed.

The month of June brought happiness to the rich owners of Canadian industry. They collected sixty-five million dollars in profits, an all-time new high for any June in Canadian history. But June also brought thousands of unemployed out of demonstrations against the announcement of total reductions of 25 per cent in the Federal Government grants-in-aid to the Provinces and municipalities for relief purposes.

A contradictory process is taking place. While business and industrial activity are back to normalcy (taking 1926 as a normal year) the number of people depending on public relief shows no great decline. Despite the heralded "recovery" and "return to prosperity," over 1,200,000 are on the relief rolls. There can be no doubt that there has been a certain amount of re-employment of workers in industry, nevertheless the number on relief does not reflect this fact due to the following reasons:

1 The natural increase in the families of the people on relief.

2 Thousands of young men and women leaving school and not finding employment.

3 The curtailment of the various public works schemes for the purpose of economy.

4 Thousands of settlers and impoverished farmers moved back into the cities and towns and going on relief.

TAXING HOMES

For the above reasons it is safe to state that even if industry continues to absorb more of the unemployed workers, the number dependent on relief will continue to grow and the ruling class has given up all hopes to absorb the unemployed in industry. To continue to provide relief to the unemployed is a burden which the capitalists do not want to bear. The policy of the Federal Government to shift the burden of relief more and more on to the municipalities is being assisted by the Provincial Liberal Governments and is driving the municipalities into bankruptcy. Taxation is raised on real estate and all business to almost confiscatory levels. The financing of municipalities even in the best of times was difficult. Many of these municipalities are new and developed during the boom years very rapidly: the building of roads, laying sewers, sidewalks and building schools—so that when the crisis struck in 1929, these municipalities had to borrow and issue bonds at usurious interest. As the crisis went into its third and fourth years, these municipalities were forced into bankruptcy. The Provincial Governments collect the maximum of taxes to meet interest.

BANKRUPT TOWNS

These municipalities are in a desperate situation today. Not only must they levy taxes to provide for their share of relief, they must also levy to pay the interest on money borrowed in the past for relief purposes. As

an example the rich City of Toronto sets the estimates for the next four years:

| EXPENDITURE ON RELIEF | DEBT CHARGES | RELIEF TAXATION |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1936 \$3,312,262.00 | \$1,440,324.00 | \$2,411,326.00 |
| 1937 2,850,000.00 | 2,346,462.00 | 3,296,462.00 |
| 1938 2,400,000.00 | 2,745,689.00 | 3,645,689.00 |
| 1939 1,950,000.00 | 2,814,850.00 | 3,664,850.00 |

The City Controller of Finance submitted the above plan to wipe out the relief debt by 1942, also basing himself on a constant drastic decline in expenditures on relief which is not in the least likely. It is easily seen how much of the money taken from the taxpayers for relief actually goes into the pockets of the bondholders.

Relief is called a racket but the above figures prove that it is entirely a financial racket. Toronto is a city that is in the best financial position of any city in Canada. It can borrow money at a lower rate than any other, so what position are other cities in? And, indeed, the revolt of the municipalities against bearing this crushing burden of relief is

becoming a big issue today.

Municipalities have not the power to tax industry and a very restricted power in a few Provinces to levy income tax. In the province of Ontario, municipalities now have no right to levy income tax, so the heavy burden of relief has to be met by taxation on real estate and business. This is clear that it is the small property-owner and business which bears this burden, and that the fight for national responsibility to maintain the unemployed is a fight not only of the unemployed but of whole municipalities wherein employed workers, home-owners and numbers of business people join.

Systematic Canvassing Proposed To Eliminate Unit Passivity

By R. STEEL
Section Organizer
Ward 2, Toronto

Ward 2 in Toronto has always been considered a specially important Ward for our Party. We have here a heavy concentration of industry on the one hand, and on the other a great number of unemployed population of English-speaking people living in slums characterized by medical authorities as being worse than any other part of the Old World.

Yet we Communists in this Ward are greatly held back in our work of organizing the unemployed in the factories and on relief—mainly because of the "passivity" of the membership which Comrade Stewart Smith is opening in the Pre-convention discussion at the Toronto general membership meeting criticized very sharply. In carrying this discussion further at a general membership meeting in our Ward on August 13th a serious beginning was made to understand the causes of this "passivity." The discussion brought to light the following most important contributing reasons:

Although the Ward Committee is carrying out the greater part of its local work on its own initiative, the Unit has not yet learned to carry out the work of the Party in their neighborhood in the same way; that is,

the units still depend upon the Ward committees to tell them to do this and that, and every little thing concerning the daily work of the membership. At one time if there was not an "urgent letter" of instructions sent to the unit meeting every week, the comrades in the unit had nothing to discuss; and in many cases there would be no meeting, merely a collection of dues and exchange of a few remarks. In order to stimulate the initiative of the units; these "letters of instruction" were done away with. At the present moment the minutes of the Ward Committee and Secretariat Meetings are sent to the units as the basis of discussion. Still the problem of "passivity" is not being solved. And so it becomes more clear that the lack of interest in the units, the tireless discussions, poor education, the "passivity" will only be decreased if the unit members with the help of the Ward Committee will undertake themselves to plan their work each week in the unit; and check up on the fulfillment of the tasks each unit member undertakes. Is this so difficult? Must we have detailed letters of instruction each week? What is the basis of the daily activity of the Units?

LOWER WAGES IS AIM

The big capitalists in Canada who feel the pressure of the crisis easing up, are more determined today in attacking the relief conditions of the unemployed, not only from the viewpoint of economy (for it is harder to argue about the necessity for economy when they can report such great profits, when the Dominion Government announces a great increase in ordinary revenue of twenty-three million dollars for the first few months of 1936 and when at the same time, the Province of Ontario announces a balanced budget and a surplus) but also from the viewpoint of getting labor at lower wages. Relief rates and wage rates are closely linked up. A common laborer or unskilled factory worker receiving 15c an hour for his day's work, if he has an average-sized family that the difference is not great between working and being on relief.

Therefore to drive relief rates down so that they pass the starvation level is a prime necessity with these capitalists so that they can cut wages still lower and compel those on relief to take this work.

Comrade Buck, in citing the example of relief conditions in Pembroke, Ontario, in his report to the Central Committee (page 12—"What We Propose") gives a case in point. For Pembroke is not a bankrupt municipality. Even the relief-cutting Minister of Welfare, Croll, admitted the inadequacy of the Pembroke relief scale—but in Pembroke there is located the E. B. Eddy Match Co., Steel equipment Co. plant, etc., where the wages are on an average of 15

cents per hour and in order to have the wages just at a little above relief, they must continually lower the relief. The Ontario Government cut all single men off the relief and in many municipalities also cut able-bodied heads of families off relief in the Spring to provide cheap farm labor.

JOBLESS INSURANCE

Today, more than ever before, the whole question of relief is bound up with wages in industry and the struggle against relief cuts and for national unemployment insurance is a matter that is of vital concern to employed workers and the whole trade union movement.

When, as a result of "recovery" and drought, prices are rising rapidly for all consumer goods and the unemployed workers must fight for increases in relief in order to live, they find themselves fighting in conditions of bankrupt municipalities.

We must now raise boldly the whole question of Unemployment Insurance which has been allowed to drop to the rear. The Supreme Court, at the request of the Liberal Government declaring that the Unemployment Insurance is unconstitutional, provides a great challenge to the people of Canada that we must face. The unemployed workers and trade unionists can now have the support of whole municipalities to develop such a mass movement that the ruling class will have to yield to the fundamental demand for Unemployment Insurance.

In this article I have outlined some of the most important features in the unemployment situation. In the following article I will deal with organizational aspects and proposals.

SYSTEMATIC VISITATION

Each unit has a definite neighborhood in which to work. Each unit has also a list of all the residents (municipal voters) in its neighborhood. It is the important work of the comrades is to make contact with these people—not once a year in an election canvass—but every day of the year in systematic daily visiting. Let a Comrade take two or three names and addresses from the voters list and at his or her own convenience visit these people during the week. Is there any reason why every Comrade in our Ward should undertake to visit at least 200 people very thoroughly—whether for the "Clarion," for the building of the mass organizations, the building of the Communist Party in our Ward, for the support of the Spanish workers and fight for world peace or some other cause. In this way we will also establish contact with factory workers as the first step to help them to organize. None of the work can be pigeon-holed in any one department—it is all related—and it all boils down to systematic visitation.

ing in our neighborhoods.

Whenever possible (and this was agreed upon at our last Ward Convention), we should in visiting these people in our neighborhood try to arrange beforehand to call them to a neighborhood social or discussion where they can express their opinions freely. With this in mind we decided to hold in place of every second unit meeting—a neighborhood gathering.

The problem of finances for work of building the Clarion, of organizing the unemployed, of generating more life in our units, of recruiting more members to the Party, of destroying the "passivity" which is holding us up—all these problems will be solved if we take Comrade Earl Browder's advice and "have the maximum of public life"—and systematically visiting the people in our neighborhoods is the first step.

A very thorough discussion on the part of all our members and letters to this paper from individual comrades and units will be a very important factor in solving the problems in our Ward. Which unit will be the first to write in?

Clarion Is Up For Discussion

By O. C. DOOLAN

IN spite of the educational campaign carried on in the columns of the *Worker*, the *Daily Clarion* and by other means, on the kind of organization we must have to handle a daily paper, the existing situation indicates that all is not yet clear in the minds of our members as to just what is expected of them in order to keep the daily, now that we have succeeded in launching it. It appears that the undivided failure of the section committees and units to act on the many suggestions and explanations carried in the paper is due, in large part, both to a failure on the part of leading bodies to make the tasks sufficiently clear, and to the failure to make any real attempt to study the problem of how to distribute a daily paper.

I believe that our experience to date points to our failure to build a sales and distribution organization as the greatest weakness of the paper. Unquestionably the work of building such an apparatus will be difficult. And the problems surrounding this work appear so large that many of our committees have simply backed away from the task instead of tackling the job and solving the difficulties as we meet them in life.

This failure to even tackle the problem is evidenced in different ways in different places. For instance in one South Ontario city our people decided they couldn't handle the daily at all and demanded to be allowed to handle the *Clarion* weekly, and there is still in this place a demand in this direction in some places. A weekly paper fits in

with unit meetings, etc. and makes the building of a distributing apparatus unnecessary.

Another Ontario city turned the entire job over to a news company, guaranteeing said company so many readers a week. If the company would build the distributing organization. It is hardly necessary to state that this plan through and this city is still without even a semblance of an apparatus for handling the paper. Other places attempt to get out of the job of building a sales apparatus by demanding to be allowed to handle the paper as before, that is, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Backing away from the inevitable job before us was expressed in another city by placing the entire order on the newstands and have every one including party members go to the stand for their papers. An easy way indeed to solve the problem, but one that didn't work.

Some points in Southern Ontario (smaller towns where only a dozen or so Communists live) want only the Saturday's issue of the paper. Still other points have cut the bundle off entirely, while others when their order to cut off was not recognized do not pay for any papers. Some section committees hold to the idea that building a sales and delivery apparatus is (particularly in Toronto) still the business of the management, and that they have nothing to do or say about it.

This failure to build, and in many instances to even tackle, a sales and distribution organization I consider to be our greatest weakness in this field and until this has been over-

come it will be very difficult to maintain the present circulation net to speak of doubling it.

SALES ORGANIZATION

It should be obvious that the old system by which the *Worker* was circulated right up to its last day in most places, that is by so many copies going to each unit and there being distributed to each member who had the job of selling them or paying whether he sold or not, that such a system could not supply the needs of a daily paper. This system functioned very well when we were a weekly, its weaknesses began to be apparent when we became a twice weekly and were glaring and hindered our growth when we became a thrice-weekly. Now that we are a daily such a system is entirely out of the question. It is, particularly in the last year of the *Worker*, in hundreds and thousands of papers not being sold, but lying in homes and halls throughout the country. Many of these papers were paid for even though not sold, but most were not, with the inevitable result that debts have piled up in almost every city and town in Canada. Certainly this system had to be changed to handle a daily.

We must build an organization which will occupy itself exclusively with the task of selling and distributing the paper. This organization must be a national one, independent of any section committees, who, while working under the office of the paper and its properly appointed representatives in the various cities and towns. It will consist generally of:

City managers appointed by the leading party committee in each city who will work under the national management but at the same time be recognizable to the committee making the appointment. The city manager should be a capable person, a good organizer and one who can spend his whole time in this work. He should be a member of a press committee which has come into existence in different places by different means.

Some cities have held readers' conferences and elected a press committee. Others have held conferences of delegates from organizations and elected a press committee. Still others have been appointed while some have come into existence because several people, interested in seeing the paper go ahead and meet voluntarily to discuss work. However the press committee becomes alive, its job is to help the manager, with the work and to see to it that the city manager is on the job. Under the city managers should be section committees, who, while working under the city manager, will be responsible to the section committee. The zone agents will handle the paper in a given area of a city (some

agents are only required in the larger centres. In smaller places the agents will perform the duties of both a city manager and zone agent).

ZONE AGENTS

The Zone Agent will obtain people to distribute the paper to regular customers, seeing to it that all papers are delivered and that the carrier collects from each customer each week and pays him; will get the paper on the newstands and see to the advertising, putting up of signs, posters, etc.; will get boys and others to sell the paper on the streets particularly the busiest corners; will organize a special squad of sellers who can be rushed on short notice into any part of his zone, to any factory or other work place to sell the paper when it contains special news pertaining to that area or factory.

For instance an expose of conditions in a factory will open the possibility of selling the paper in the area where work is in it and to those who live in its vicinity; an expose of conditions in a slum area should help to sell the paper more quickly in the area dealt with than in any other place. A story of a strike will sell the paper to the strikers; a story of a development in a trade union will sell the paper to the members of the union; a story of where the taxation dollar goes will sell the paper to small business people and others who pay land, property or business taxes, etc. All of this is the job of the Zone Agent is what we have to work on which necessitates a squad of sellers easily obtainable.

The Zone Agent must spend his time checking up on the work being done, organizing canvassing squads (from members of units in their own area); see to it that a story of a strike is put in the paper before the people; seeing to it that all important meetings, particularly trade union, unemployed and political mass meetings are properly covered; and most important of all helping and stimulating the units to get out and get new readers.

The Zone Agent should organize his carrier routes so that no carrier will take longer than one hour to deliver all his papers. In Toronto the entire city delivery should be completed by the end of the afternoon. The carrier will be responsible for canvassing and street selling. The carrier boys must collect every week and turn the report over to their zone agent on a stated day each week.

The paper will not stand the loss incurred by customers failing to take their papers. The management holds section com-

To Raise Funds

Give Away Valuable Prizes In Annual Labor Pageant

By ART SEAL (Windsor)

The "Daily Clarion" is sure to come in for plenty of discussion at the Party convention. I feel that at present it does not get the attention that it deserves, and which it will have to receive, if we are to build it into the paper we want it to become.

PAGEANT OF NATIONS

A point that will be stressed at the Convention will be the need for the financing of the "Daily Clarion." This is the main point in regard to our paper at the present time. I wish to put forward some ideas which I think will be valuable in this direction. Our old slipshod method of raising finances must be changed completely. Up to now we have been content to issue cards and appeals which never reach any further than our own membership and close sympathizers. The burden of carrying the paper alongside with the many other financial campaigns that the membership in the working-class organizations have to carry is becoming too great. No other funds will have to be found in order to maintain a sustaining fund big enough to keep our paper on the "top of the tree."

To raise about \$20,000 a year is a big task when we do it in the Campaigns that we have been carrying, but I believe that a complete change of methods we can easily raise at least twice that amount. In order to

do this I make the following suggestions for consideration:

- (1) That we decide to have one monster drive per year at which the objective must be raised.
- (2) That an International Pageant of Nations be held either in the early spring or in the fall, and that very large prizes be secured for the purpose. That everything that is done all over the country will have as its climax towards which to work.
- (3) That tickets of admission to this pageant be sold all over the country at 25 cents each. Each ticket to be numbered and giving the holder a chance in a large drawing which will take place on the day of the Pageant.
- (4) That each District, Sub-District, City, Town or Village, shall be able to keep five cents off each ticket, or 20 per cent to use in its own area to build the "Clarion" or help local organization in the area in whatever way they see fit.
- (5) That prizes be secured suitable and necessary in the homes of the workers, which nevertheless under the conditions we are living under today, it is unlikely that they can secure, such as the following: Gas and Electric Range, Washers and Machines, Dining Room Suites, Chesterfield Suites, Radios, Rugs, Carpets etc. etc.
- (6) Special prizes can be given

to Districts, Sub-Districts and also to individuals selling the largest number of tickets.

(7) The Pageant could be run for say three days or even maybe a week. Some very prominent International figure could be secured to speak at each session in a last effort to sell as many tickets as possible.

(8) Stalls on the principal of Bazaars could be set up, each stall representing a different campaign. Each Language Group in Toronto could have its own stall and have it decorated according to its own taste, and here again prizes could be given for the best decorated and arranged stall.

Shooting entertainments could also be added, featuring national dances etc.

\$50,000 TICKETS

Many other things could be thought up in order to make this a big success. Arrangements could also possibly be made with the railway companies to run excursions to Toronto for the big week.

The tickets that would be put out for sale would also be a great advertisement for the paper. Everyone who bought a ticket would become a potential reader. A special supplement giving the number and the value of the prizes could be issued several times during the campaign with special sales of that issue, which would bring it to the attention of ever more workers.

It seems to me that if we can get around \$20,000 in a year from among our own close sympathizers, that with a scheme on some lines similar to the above with the appeal of the possibility of winning some good prizes that it should not be very hard in say a four or five month campaign to raise \$50,000. 20 per cent of this would be \$10,000 which would leave a sum of about \$40,000. After all expenses are paid this should still leave more than \$40,000 in the treasury to carry on for the next year.

I am aware that this would be a very big task but I feel that it will be worth the effort and that it would be very successful and that as a result of the Drive and prize drawing alone, we will be able to get the sales of the *Clarion* quicker than we can by any other method.

At least we must begin to consider other than our old methods of raising funds, and a drastic change is necessary. I hope that every consideration will be given to the proposals set forth and if these are not acceptable that at least some other scheme shall be thought forward that will give us a better chance to build our paper into what it should be—"The paper that is for every worker" home in Canada."

WORKERS' DAILY CLARION

● Finance
● Circulation
● Correspondence

mittees responsible for the payment of all papers received in their area. Wherever possible the Zone Agents should have office (set up by section committees and used for other purposes so as to cut expenses) in towns (particularly in Toronto) from which he can get in touch quickly with the city office and also handle complaints from customers.

HANDLING COMPLAINTS

The quick handling of complaints is one of the most important jobs of an efficient sales organization. Those lodging complaints should be visited and the complaint properly attended to. The very best advertisement the paper can have is prompt delivery system and courteous agents to meet our customers. This latter is very important and must be stressed because very few of our agents pay enough attention to holding the readers we have, and this certainly has a bearing on the fluctuation of our circulation. It will be difficult, without funds to devote to complete daily sales. Nevertheless that is what our readers expect and we must have no stone unturned to measure up. For instance, one phone the city office with the information that so-and-so will take the paper and wants it delivered the next morning. No explanation will suffice to convince anyone that the paper cannot be delivered the next morning.

We must compete in delivery service with the capitalist press because our customers demand it and in order to do so we must have zone managers who are on the job and who can be reached by the city office and who will deliver to it that his carriers deliver every paper to every customer, and failing to reach a carrier with the information that a new customer wants the paper must see to it that the paper is delivered on that morning. This outline by no means exhausts the tasks of the zone agents but enough has been said to indicate them generally and to point out the hopelessness of ever expecting to build a delivery apparatus worthy of the name if section committees continue to pile other work on what agents have.

Facts can be given to show that most of the zone agents now were were, not by the section committees but by the management and some of these, who were either C.C.F. or non-party workers, were drawn into the party and immediately loaded with every task under the sun. The result is that these people, who did great work when they first took over an agents' job could not help but show a sharp decline both in the numbers obtained and efficiency in handling their area. At the regular meeting of the Toronto Agents it has been reported on many occasions that no independent work can be

mittees in these areas can expect the theory to continue under such conditions passes all understanding.

What is said here about paying for papers applies of course to agents in smaller places. All agents must keep an accurate set of books which are audited at least every month by a representative of the leading committee in the area or else by a committee appointed for this purpose from the Press Committee. Efficiency is only found where a real system of accountability exists. Without proper accountability all talk of efficiency is merely paying lip service to a need without realizing it. Suggested methods of keeping books have gone out to all agents but with few exceptions very little accounting is done by our agents.

RESPONSIBILITY

The fact that the sales and distribution organization has been called an "independent business enterprise" (which it is) has given rise to the idea in many units and not only units but section committees and district bureaus that now the party has nothing to do with the paper; it is being put on a business basis, even on a profit basis; the paper will be delivered to the door of every member and his duty is discharged when he pays for it every week.

Only last week the agent in a large Toronto Ward left the city for a few weeks to take the job in the country leaving a bill to the paper behind. On informing the district organizer that his committee would be held responsible for the bill he indignantly disclaimed all responsibility declaring that the management

wanted an independent apparatus; that he had nothing to do with the appointing of the agent (which is true enough but only because the management was forced to find someone to handle the paper otherwise no delivery system would be in operation at all); that his committee had nothing to do with the delivery apparatus, etc., etc.

The sales and distribution apparatus cannot be built unless the party builds it and it cannot function properly unless the party is controlling and watching it at every step.

It is the duty of each and every party member to help build this organization and to step into any breach that he may notice, to fill any temporary failure of the distribution apparatus to function properly. For instance if a party member discovers a delivery has not been made to a newstand he should make the delivery himself if that is feasible, if not he should notify without delay those who should have made the delivery and if this is not possible, get someone to look after that stand. What applies to a stand applies to an individual customer. A party member was in the Clarion office recently and remarked that a newstand in his vicinity was kicking about not receiving the paper for three or four days. This member knew about the failure three days before he notified the office. He should have phoned the office immediately upon becoming acquainted with the situation if he could not make the delivery himself. Another example shows the importance of this matter must be done: a large meeting was recently held in Toronto and after the meeting a nationally known comrades noticed a

salesman "selling papers in a very dejected and halfhearted manner." Immediately he took the bundle of papers from the salesman and began shouting the news and gave a demonstration of how to sell our paper by selling 50 copies in a few minutes. This party member realized his duty to help out the apparatus in this instance and did so. If every party member will understand this and do his or her part we will soon have an organization that will handle 20,000 circulation.

Earlier in this article I stated that party members should get their paper delivered to them. This is true. But this does not mean that units will no longer receive a bundle of papers. They will not be able to handle a bundle every day but every unit should receive a bundle at least once every week. With this bundle the unit members will canvass and the new readers obtained over to the zone agent for delivery. Every unit member should have a definite quota of new readers to obtain each month. During the month of July Wards 4 and 5 in Toronto received through the units less papers than would give each member one paper for the entire month. London has now set itself a quota of one new reader per member to be obtained in the next two months. This approach to the struggle built the facts are that to date neither London nor any other city or town has obtained one new reader for each member during the past three months.

Only when every unit is consistently feeding the distribution apparatus will our circulation grow at that speed which the situation makes possible and the need of the paper demands.

Example To Follow

Rising Sales in Cornwall Due to Workers' Letters

By J. M. CLARK (Toronto)

It requires only a casual glance through the files of the "Clarion" to reveal a marked decrease in the quantity of workers' correspondence sent in to our paper because a daily. This situation requires immediate attention; for workers' correspondence, the news from the workers written in the language of the workers is the breath of life to a working class paper. Nothing else can take its place.

In recent months the influence of our party has grown greatly. The position of our press has been strengthened through the publication of a daily paper. Because at the same time this decrease in job news is a weakening of our position on that particular front. It is a weakening that, unless remedied, will have serious repercussions in the paper losing contact with the everyday life of the workers and, consequently, suffering a loss of prestige and ultimately a loss in circulation.

We have excellent correspondents in many of the larger centers. They write well and send in a considerable quantity of general news. But no outstanding correspondent can take the place of a worker writing of the plant where he is employed. Only a worker on the job can depict the job struggle in the vivid

language of the Canadian working class.

Through channels frequently overlooked, the workers of Canada are bound by many ties to the response in the United States. In the case of the wages paid to his fellow farmers in Montreal. The bricklayers in Winnipeg want to know the wage scale in force in Calgary. The coal miners in B. C. in Alberta and in British Columbia want to know the job struggles and working conditions in the various mine fields in this country. All of this should find a place in our paper. At present it seldom does simply because this information is not sent to the office. It should be sent directly by people concerned, for they can write it in more realistically.

FARM LETTERS

Farmer news also shows a marked decline. Since the "Furrow" was amalgamated with the "Clarion Weekly" there has been a sharp drop in the amount of farmer news sent in. This is serious and unless remedied without delay will certainly lead to a decline in circulation among our farmer readers. Farmer news must be published if it is sent in by farmers. It can-

not be secured in any other way.

Farm correspondence suffers from weaknesses peculiar to itself. Very often essential features are omitted from the report. In frequent long resolutions are quoted in detail if while actual struggles of hungry people demanding food from a munificent Council, but the workers and other important news are not mentioned. A general strengthening on this front is needed.

Writing news from the job is not an unimportant chore, not something to be done "when the spirit moves" or left undone with careless abandon. It is an important, vital part of the task of building a powerful working class press rooted in the masses, drawing strength and vitality from the living struggle for the rights of the people. A live worker correspondent is a priceless asset to our movement.

To build our press, it must have actual, real contact with the lives of the workers. It must depict their struggles in their own language. Such material helps our readers and makes workers interested in our paper because it gives them what no other paper can offer. Thus, it builds circulation and increases our influence.

CORNWALL EXAMPLE

An example of how day to day contact with the workers and reporting their struggles built the circulation of our paper can be seen in what has taken place at Cornwall, Ontario. The regular news of the strike of the Canadian rayon mill there, published by the "Daily Clarion," has increased enormously the circulation of the "Clarion" and has made it the most widely read paper at that same place. It has enabled the "Daily Clarion" to place the strike in a real place in the daily lives of the workers at Cornwall.

The same thing can be done in many other places. All that is needed are the correspondents to send the news and live agents to see that the paper is distributed.

It is on this basis that our press must be built. It is on this basis that our paper must be made a truly Canadian paper, reflecting the lives and struggles of the Canadian people, defining their interests and leading them forward.

No phase of Party work is of greater importance than building our press. No work for our press is of greater importance than building up a corps of live workers and farmer correspondents.

WHY NOT ALBERTA?

Our Attitude to Social Credit Government Correct Policy Can Win Social Credit Supporters For a Farmer-Labor Party

YOU will remember that at the January Plenum of the Party we raised very sharply the question of adopting a positive attitude to the Social Credit movement and its slogan of gaining increased purchasing power for the people. We stated that this movement of the people can become a force, capable of securing a better standard of living for the masses, providing it be linked up with the labor movement. We stated that if the Communist Party failed to give a lead to this movement it could become an easy prey for Fascist demagogues, who were attempting to establish a mass base for themselves among the disillusioned followers of Aberhart. In order to lead the people back into reactionary channels under Fascist leadership.

We stated then that the mass base on which the Aberhart government rests will disintegrate and turn against the Government if Aberhart fails to carry through his pre-election promises to do away with want amidst plenty.

We can now see how necessary it was for us to shun our sectarian propagandist attitude towards the Social Credit movement. Although we have not yet been able to draw the entire Social Credit movement into an anti-capitalist front, considerable success has been made in establishing closer relations between the Social Credit followers of Aberhart and the labor movement. We have such organizations as the Citizens' Defense Movement, where unity was established on the basis of defense of the Regina strikers. The movement included many Social Credit groups, together with almost the entire labor and progressive movement in the province. On several occasions we have had unemployed struggles where the unemployed Social Credit followers, together with other unemployed workers have conducted joint struggles for higher relief, either against the city authorities or directly against the Provincial Government. Thus in Medicine Hat the unemployed occupied the City Hall in protest against the attempts of city authorities to cut all summer-long off relief during the summer months. Particularly in Regina we have the Social Credit followers who are unemployed been active in fighting for higher relief from the government. On several occasions the Drumheller unemployed have compelled the Aberhart government to grant concessions. Taber, Lethbridge, Calgary and Edmonton are other places where the Social Credit people, together with sections of the labor movement have conducted struggles for their immediate needs.

We can easily see now what the result would have been had we adopted a policy of isolating the Social Credit people. The result would have been that we would indeed have helped to cut relief for the unemployed and made it easier for the reactionary forces to smash the entire unemployed movement.

In the Edmonton bi-election we had the opportunity to apply our united front tactics more fully and on a wider scale than

FROM THE REPORT GIVEN

by
ANDREW HOGARTH
to the ALBERTA PROVINCIAL CONVENTION
Communist Party of Canada

ever before. Our comrades, together with the militant sections of the C. C. F. were responsible for saving the Social Credit workers from becoming supporters of the reactionary combination, which was lined up behind Mr. Morris, the candidate of the Liberal Party.

The Edmonton bi-election not only gave new hope to the Social Credit people, prevented them from swinging towards the Liberal Party. It also laid the base for a broad people's movement in the city of Edmonton, and indicated to the masses of Alberta and throughout Canada, the road which leads to victory for the progressive forces.

The Edmonton unity movement, more than anything else, exposed the arguments of the right wing section, the anti-unity group in the C. C. F. The Edmonton bi-election showed more clearly than all arguments that what must be done to unite the people and who are the real splitters of working class unity.

A YEAR'S RECORD

After twelve months of Aberhart, the masses are experiencing not a better life for all, as but steadily worse conditions. New repressive measures have been put on the statute books. The Licensing of Tradesmen Act is one of the most far-reaching anti-working class acts ever passed by any government. The operators can use this act with the help of the government to drive out of industry every active member of the Labor movement. The amendment to the School Act aims in reality to prevent school boards from falling into the hands of militant workers and farmers.

The increase in income tax rates, the sales tax, service tax, and now the so-called Prosperity Bonds and Basic Dividend scheme, which in reality is a huge tax scheme, has created such resentment against the government, that already there is much talk in the higher ranks of the Social Credit movement about forcing the cabinet to resign, so as to save the movement. What is taking place in the cabinet, no longer can Aberhart depend on his majority in parliament to carry him through. He is compelled to resort to all kinds of tricks, threats, and even expulsions from the Party, in order to stave off his own defeat. Within the whole theory of Social Credit and monetary reform is in the process of being destroyed by the test of reality.

TAX THE RICH

Many of the Social Credit leaders are now willing to discard

the whole theory if they could only find an easy way to do so. Many of the M. L. A.'s and even some of the cabinet ministers are prepared to scuttie the leaky Social Credit ship and let the Captain, Aberhart, drown with his Social Credit boat.

In this case, what should our position be? Should we make it as difficult as possible for the Social Credit people to do that movement? Or should we assist them? Should we in the fashion of the good old secretaries, stand back and tell them "I told you so"? Or should we try to win them for the united front and convince them through unity in action of all the progress the people, increased purchasing power can be secured for the people, by compelling the rich to pay.

We take the stand that now, as never before, must our Party, and all militant workers, fight for the establishment of the broadest kind of unity around a program representing not Socialism, nor the complete program of any Party, but a program which represents the most burning needs of the toiling people, and which can be carried out immediately, a program that will answer the questions that now agitate the minds of the toiling people in our province.

We must show the Social Credit followers that we are not only willing to help them to secure increased purchasing power, but that we are willing to take the lead in mobilizing the people of the province for this purpose. We must explain to them the way to get purchasing power into the hands of the people, is not by placing new taxes on the goods the workers and farmers have to pay, nor by issuing script money. We will have to show the Social Credit people that by taxing the rich and declaring a moratorium on private and public debts, a big loan can be removed from the backs of the farmers and small business people. By taxing the rich, the government would easily be able to increase, by substantial amounts, the present relief scale for the unemployed, and in addition, have something left over to start a public works program, whereby to provide work for the unemployed at trade union rates of pay, and to build decent homes for the workers in the mining camps and towns.

We must show the Social Credit people that it is not the movement for higher purchasing power, that has failed, but that it is Aberhart, and his reactionaries, who have betrayed the people, that Aberhart has sold out to St. James St. financiers, that he is in league with the old line parties, that the only differences he has with the old

line parties is on methods only, and not on principal questions, not on who should pay the cost of the crisis. On that point there is no principal difference between Aberhart and the old line parties.

If our Party fails to win the followers of Aberhart over to an anti-capitalist position, then there is a real danger that Aberhart will hand over to the government, but the entire movement to the forces of reaction.

What we need to do at this Convention is to re-emphasize our position, bring forward certain questions more sharply. Now we must bring forward the question of saving the movement



PREMIER ABERHART

from the traitors in a more positive fashion.

We must examine critically every single act of the government. We must hold up every action of the Social Credit government before the tribune of public opinion and conduct a most careful mass campaign of exposure of each and every anti-working class action of Aberhart. We must sharply differentiate between conscious agents of finance capital inside the Social Credit movement and those who have been misled by Aberhart. We must develop such a campaign that Aberhart will either hesitate from carrying out his anti-working class line or be forced to resign as a result of mass pressure from a united progressive front of the common people. The final solution to all the problems of the people today will only be found in the Socialist way out, but if we refuse or neglect to fight for improvement in the immediate conditions affecting the people today, then we are also in reality refusing to fight for the Socialist way out of the present capitalist crisis.

POLITICAL CRISIS AHEAD

In our province we can expect rapid changes in the political situation. Aberhart has up till now answered every single question confronting our people in favor of big finance. The government is rapidly losing its mass base

among the workers and farmers; there is no doubt in our mind that the government already finds itself in a very difficult position. With its own ranks split, its mass base dwindling away, many instances former enthusiastic followers of Aberhart are now turning against him. Aberhart is now casting around for new allies in order to bolster up his tottering regime.

His call for acclamation for the Liberal Party in the Edmonton bi-election was no doubt a bid for support for his government from that section of the bourgeoisie. His offer of a \$5 a month basic dividend aims to raise new confidence in the government among the farmers and workers.

The Liberal Party is not willing to accept Aberhart's boom. The reactionary Liberal machine is now preparing to bring about the downfall of the Aberhart government, by having a snap election campaign, claiming that the progressive forces will not have time to heal the split in their own ranks, and will so make possible a Liberal victory.

It is not very likely that the Social Credit government will be able to survive in office for one more year, without effecting some radical changes in its present policy of favoring the bankers over the masses, and the treatment of the common people. Any such change is not likely to take place. The Social Credit government is the future political party of the workers and farmers. It is a question which must be solved.

Every member of the Communist Party, every militant member of the C. C. F., the U. F. A., trade unions, and the rank and file of the Social Credit Movement, all members of the youth organizations, everyone who shares our program, must bend every effort to remove every obstacle on the road to the formation of an all-inclusive Farmer-Labor Party. A united Party of the toiling people can help to secure material improvement for the working class, for the drought-stricken farmers, and the reined middle class. We can now benefit by the experiences of the German Socialists, and we must boldly take the lessons given to us by our class brothers in France, by our heroic comrades in Spain, who are defending with their very lives their homes, their country and the whole future of humanity against the Fascist hordes.

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By **TIM BUCK**
National Secretary, Communist Party of Canada

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By A. T. HILL
Secretary, Sudbury
District Committee

The basic document for this pre-convention discussion is the report of Comrade Tim Buck adopted by the 1963 Central Committee Session and published in pamphlet form under the title "What We Propose".

The report correctly points out the character of the present crisis of world capitalism and as a part of it the special kind of depression in Canada. It shows that the increase that has taken place in industrial production is mainly in the war industries and that all forces of capitalism today are directed towards war preparations.

In emphasizing the worsening of the economic position of the working class it may be fruitful to add in this discussion some figures showing how the living costs have gone up in all capitalist countries.

FOOD AND FIGURES

In the statistical monthly bulletin of the League of Nations it is shown that out of 43 countries the price-index has risen considerably in 22 countries, but does not give a full picture in regard to cost of living. Most of these indices are taken on a base of 1913-18 when the living conditions of the proletariat were completely different. Again various expenses (for food, lodgings, clothing, etc.) are considered in a proportion not in accord with the realities of the workers' budget today.

It is an established fact (accepted by government agencies and other statistical organizations) that a Canadian and American worker, whose wages are \$1000 and \$1200 a year, use today 55-60 per cent of his budget for food instead of the 33 per cent estimated by the League of Nations bulletin. In Germany, as reported by Deutsche Volkswirtschaft, nine tenths of the workers use more than 50 per cent of their wages for food. This means that the rise of the prices of foodstuffs influences a worker's budget more than the official League of Nations index indicates. The rise of prices of foodstuffs index in almost all capitalist countries is much higher than the general index of cost of living.

Comparing the two we see following: Germany the rise of cost of living index between April 1953 and November 1955 was 6 per cent while the food prices index shows a rise of 8.5 per cent. In U.S.A. corresponding numbers were 7.2 per cent and 37.6 per cent. In Canada, corresponding indices were 14.3 per cent and 29.2 per cent. In England—4.8 per cent and 14.9 per cent. In Japan the corresponding indices between July 1951 and Nov. 1953 were 12 per cent and 83.5 per cent.

These figures concretely emphasize the plight of the employed workers as also of the unemployed and show how contrary to the talk of "recovery" the working people are being pauperized. They show too, the general direction of development of capitalist recovery and emphasize in the great calamity that will bring economically to the masses even if we disregard for the moment the direct destruction of the forces of civilization that war would unleash.

INCO SPINS

In the war industries, such as nickel mining, the great majority of the workers are increasing in the wake of the fact that the speed-up and long hours are eating up their life energy at a rapid speed. They realize that the spy-agency operated under the

special Auxiliary Company of Canada, is closely connected with the direct spy-agency in the mines and thereby part and parcel of the speed-up system of the International Nickel Company.

Directed against the right of organization, free speech, free assembly, freedom of press and the use by the miners of their civic rights in the affairs of their communities, the spy-system is thereby directed against protection of life in the mines. Yet many of the miners and people around the mining towns do not realize that they could decisively influence the affairs of the country and of the world at this period. The position of the thousands of mine workers and people in towns under the feudal control of International Nickel Company is relatively more important, considering the rapidly spreading breaking of a new world war, than any part of the country. Furthermore, this is the only organized force in influencing the King government in its foreign policy or its inner Empire agreements in war alliance with the Baldwin government, than the International Nickel Company.

The International Nickel Com-

pany through its spy-system (as recently exposed by the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter workers, Sudbury Local and by the editor of the Associated Labor Press, Fred Holton) represents a strong base of fascist reaction, which nurses, finances and centralizes at its service the most reactionary fascist elements of foreign nationalities. In various northern Ontario mining towns leadership of reactionary nationalist groups head a special blacklisting agency for the mining companies: workers of various nationalities cannot secure work in the mines unless they hold a card signed by these terrorist leaders, who are paid both by the companies and by the reactionary governments in Europe. These leaders themselves or their agents are in many cases openly stationed at the offices of the mine companies.

It is significant to note that united action by the workers to abolish the spy-system of card system in South Porcupine. The organization of the workers into the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' International Union (A F L) will be able to destroy the many sided spy-system in the towns ruled by the INCO

hazards.

However the organization of workers must take place under the most difficult conditions, and therefore the support of all sections of the Canadian peace movement must be mobilized to assist the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers.

A GREATER SUDBURY

The ferment of opinion and the development of mass activities all over the country is reflected also in Sudbury both in the towns and the country. Mass actions demanding opening of the paper mill, the fight for relief and for municipal self-government in Sturgeon Falls, lumber workers and relief strikers in Blind River and the present relief strike in Espanola, as well in a number of farming localities are expressions of this.

A sure sign of this is also the growing interest of the people in the abolition of the INCO card system in South Porcupine. The organization of the workers into the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' International Union (A F L) will be able to destroy the many sided spy-system in the towns ruled by the INCO

movement while the same time provide democratic rights for the workers in these INCO company towns.

Many in Sudbury are already speaking about the actual organization of Workers' Councils and Ward Associations, with this program as a starting point while others are becoming emphasis on the concrete proposals for building programs in their various wards. This development gives promise of leading to a municipal alliance of progressive people, thus it will also fully support the organization of the miners. Thus in Sudbury may well develop the basis of a Farmer-Labor Party. Under the leadership of the CCF in Sudbury is not alive to these concrete issues of life. Last winter Comrade W. C. Brown was elected but sabotaged by the Provincial Executive representative, led to the point where no official meeting could be held. He has to discuss the issues for the selection of delegates to the Ontario Convention. The CCF in Sudbury is not alive to these concrete issues of life. Last winter Comrade W. C. Brown was elected but sabotaged by the Provincial Executive representative, led to the point where no official meeting could be held. He has to discuss the issues for the selection of delegates to the Ontario Convention. The CCF in Sudbury is not alive to these concrete issues of life. Last winter Comrade W. C. Brown was elected but sabotaged by the Provincial Executive representative, led to the point where no official meeting could be held. He has to discuss the issues for the selection of delegates to the Ontario Convention.

In the face of the concentration of resources and to give to our CCF comrades cannot allow their right-wing leaders to prevent the fair and solid stabilization of capitalism, waiting — for parliamentary speeches alone to settle these problems. Our CCF friends must be organizers of the struggle and mass activity of the common people. They must make speeches of parliamentary representatives effective.

We Communists say that in the establishment of a united front mass Farmer-Labor Party the CCF as an organization must be able to reach out to the broad masses of the people. We are for a live and active CCF movement. We are for a broad Farmer-Labor Party because we are for a people's front against fascism and war. Division of the working class cannot be allowed. Unity is essential for the forward march of the working class and unity alone will win working-class allies.

The program for a Greater Sudbury and the building program were presented publicly by the Communist Party in a meeting. The broad mass popularizations and development by the Party has been lacking.

The small unit basis of the party organization has become a hindrance to the development of the Party. The broad mass activity and the recruiting of new members to the Party means that most flexible and most effective form of organization must be developed. The unit (enlarged in size) should be the working class organization, realizing that shop and industrial units are also basic organizational forms. Party units should also be organized as branches of various streets and wards, with Communist open forums and Communist club rooms surrounding them.

Our Party is rooted deeply in the life of the working class and the masses of the Canadian masses. We inherit and continue the traditions of 1837, the 1919 Winnipeg strike and the mass movement in the Canadianism today. We must consider ourselves as the whole development of Canada.

— IN THE MELTING POT OF DISCUSSION —

Silicosis, Bad Working Conditions 'I Want Work' — Are Miners' First Concern Says New Member

To the Editor, "Discussion"

In regard to the third point of the agenda of the Eighth National Convention of the Communist Party of Canada, I would venture to suggest that an immediate campaign of Party building should be carried on in the mining districts of Northern Ontario.

To date, Party activities have been mainly confined to Sudbury, Timmins and Kirkland Lake. Since the 1954 Noranda Strike, the Party has practically ceased to function in Rouyn district, and very little effort has been made to organize the workers of the new town of Val d'Or. The reign of terror against working class organizations instituted by the Noranda mine. Nevertheless, some progress could have been made had Party organizers penetrated these areas. Organized mining centers are a great asset to the Party, as the proportionately large campaign contribution from the Timmins district clearly shows.

J. Gillebanks, in his article in "DISCUSSION", refers to the "lack of interest of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers' Union" and says "Only by taking up all the vital problems concerning the miners: silicosis, bonus, wages, compensation, housing, rents, mine taxes, municipal affairs, etc., can the Party be best be approached to make it a powerful force in the whole life of the Northern community".

This advice applies equally well to the building up of Party units in mining towns. The miner and mill workers can best be approached by someone whom he feels understands his working conditions and immediate needs.

WORKING CONDITIONS MOST IMPORTANT

On the basis of a long better working conditions, he may become a Union man as even a Party member. IMMEDIATE needs, however, must be discussed before his political education begins. An unemployed worker or a miner employed in the South will display an interest from the start in an economic discussion regarding the cause of the present world capitalist depression, but a Northern miner, making \$20-275 a week, cannot be approached in such a way. Contrary to what many papers said, the Noranda miners in June, 1954, did not strike primarily for a wage increase. The demand for the restoration of a 3c an hour wage cut was incidental and only affected the miners' immediate needs (the smelter employees had suffered no wage cut).

The pressing demands of the miners are for a new day, better working conditions in both mine and smelter, and shorter hours underground (the men there in hours mine production 9 hours underground, received pay for 8 1/2 hours worked).

In order of importance, I believe the subjects that there should be plenty of literature in the offices so that new members may have lots to read and thus learn more about the Communist Party and world affairs and especially learn about the only country in the world Communist, the mighty Soviet Union.

Hoping you will consider these suggestions and that they may lead to a little bit at least towards building up a mighty Communist Party of Canada, the only real working class party.

Conradely,

BERT WHITE

To the Editor: "Discussion"

Having just received my copy of "DISCUSSION" today, I read with interest your outline of questions and I wish to make a few suggestions concerning new members. I am a new member myself, having joined the Party only a month ago. When I joined, I was given no work to do in the movement, although I hung around the office at Parliament street almost every day.

There were only a few papers there to read and get very monotonous doing nothing. I believe this is why some of the new members leave the Party. They think the Communist Party is not very much help to the working class, so they leave. I suggest that new members should be given some work to do as soon as possible after joining the Party, work which would be interesting, leading, serving to educate them in Party work and which would also make them feel that they were really doing something for the Party on the emancipation of the working class.

I also believe in my own case, and especially that there should be plenty of literature in the offices so that new members may have lots to read and thus learn more about the Communist Party and world affairs and especially learn about the only country in the world Communist, the mighty Soviet Union.

Hoping you will consider these suggestions and that they may lead to a little bit at least towards building up a mighty Communist Party of Canada, the only real working class party.

Toronto, Ont. — James McDowall

Why the Street is the Place to the Man on the Street

The question of how we approach the man on the streets must come up for a thorough examination at our Party Convention in Toronto in October. One aspect of the problem is how we use and how we should use the street corner meetings to present our view-point on every question that interests him. Toronto has perhaps had more experience with this form of education and publicity than any other city in Canada. Our experience here can be valuable.

On street corners the Party gets the ear of the masses who often will not read or cannot buy our papers or literature and who do not attend our mass meetings as yet. The speaker has an opportunity which the writer has not of adjusting himself to the mood and character of his audience. He is able to explain at length and in detail, an opportunity which the Communist writer still does not get for large sections of Canadian toilers. An interesting speaker can get and hold attention often where the written word makes no appeal. He is on the spot to answer all the questions which only an encyclopedia could provide in a written form. He can be on one subject for an hour or on ten different phases in the same time according as his audience wishes. We have meet-

ings from 8.30 till midnight. The listeners are chiefly those who have not the capacity for long-continued reading and thinking, but they want and benefit from hour-long discussion. There are thousands of citizens who are not in the Party and who still find their best introduction through outdoor meetings.

TORONTO EXPERIENCES

Toronto experience shows that street-corner meetings are gaining favor amongst our comrades. Over the weeks about 30 meetings are held in the nine wards in Toronto. Certain wards are increasing this number by meetings held during the week nights. Not all the meetings are equally well attended. But good results are produced at almost all. Recruits are being made from the meetings. Literature is being sold and the "Daily Clarion" is winning new readers directly from the collections. In certain wards the collections taken up amount to \$5 a week. This is useful for their development of education and publicity.

There are obstacles to great success at these meetings. The obstacles are all interlinked and the remedying of one helps to remove all other obstacles. The

chief difficulties are lack of preparation by the responsible comrades in the form of literature, banners, speakers' stand, etc.; lack of correct choice of location; lack of speakers who

By
L. McMurray

will speak and failure of speakers to keep their appointments. If the site, poor, enthusiasm flags, preparation is poor, speakers are discouraged. Then preparation is made better but the speakers, discouraged, do not turn up promptly, or in some cases not at all.

WHAT IS NEEDED

The remedies are at hand. A good but cheap Party banner, 6 feet by 3 feet, costing 50 cents, a folding speaker's stand with hand-roll costing 75 cents and an easel for display of literature and papers, costing 50 cents, should be prepared for every meeting place. The stand should hold these accessories and deliver them at the spot each meeting night. These accessories are surprisingly useful in holding

and attracting crowds. Unit responsibility for each meeting, which involves checking up with each speaker so that his memory works, being on hand with the apparatus and literature, collection boxes, etc., can overcome the tendency for speakers to fail to show up. Personal contact with the speaker will produce almost perfect attendance, experience shows. The thorough use of hands and refusal to conduct further meetings must be changed into determination to take direct responsibility for all aspects of a successful meeting.

Careful choice of location is of paramount importance on the fate of a meeting. But lack of an audience who will stick is often due to shyness and fear. Thus, at a recent meeting in Ward 9 in Toronto, only 10 to 12 listened in front of the speaker, while 50 to 60 stood across the street and listened. They were interested. They bought 12 copies of "Why We Need the C. P. Stand For" and of the "Daily Clarion." They gave a small collection in addition. Thus the third remedy is persistence in regular meetings until a group of regular listeners, who help to gather an audience, springs up. This is particularly the case on St. Clair Avenue, Yonge Street North, etc. where crowds parade the street but are unaccustomed to Communist meetings. Growth of

audience follows regularity of meetings and proper mechanical preparation, plus, talks on timely subjects.

But the greatest remedy can come from another source. In my opinion the Party must turn its attention more seriously to these meetings. Not merely spare but planned time should be given to arranging them. Speakers should consider it a most important part of their party work each week to speak publicly. They should not be discouraged by small meetings, badly planned meetings, etc., at the beginning. Let them make regular appointments and keep every one, speak at every one regardless of the size of the audience and meetings will be better planned, locations chosen more carefully. Instead of requiring to be constantly convinced, speakers ought to notify the Education and Publicity Department, a regular time or times where they will speak. At least one evening a week should be devoted to this most valuable work. Weekly public agitation should be a booked date for every speaker and this applies not only to experienced speakers. Regular appearances as chairman or as a five minute speaker every week if needed be from a written-out speech will serve to give practice, experience and self-confidence to any comrade.

Develop and Promote Women Leaders

By ANNIE S. BULLER

Our Party Congress is looked forward to not only by the Party members and progressive people in the organized Labour Movement as a historic event in the life of the working-class, but also by thousands of non-party women from coast to coast who regard our party as the party that defends their every-day interests, a party that has the best interests at the working-class at heart. The above statement is best substantiated by some living examples.

A woman phones the office. She makes an appointment with me and comes down to see me. She tells me "I am not a Party member but the Party is dear to me. It fights for us and gives attention to the minutest problem facing us." She tells me that in the women's organization, of which she is a member, two Party women were not behave as Communists. They scrap and the result is dissension in this woman's club. Her complaint was justified. This working-class woman, like many others, has every right to expect us to work as Communists should work—as devoted, self-sacrificing men and women.

Why is it that in the course of recruiting women into the trade-unions, such as needle, textile, millinery, shirt and overalls; that recruiting women into the unemployed associations, women's progress clubs, for the struggle for peace, etc., we do not, at the same time, work out a plan to simultaneously recruit women into the Party? Do we still have to convince ourselves that the best alternative for effective and successful work in the trade unions, in the mass organizations, is a strong Communist Party?

While we cannot speak of the great influx of women into the trade unions we can, however, point to some places where a

very excellent beginning has been made as in Shirt & Overall industry in Winnipeg. Among the textile workers in Cornwall and perhaps to some much lesser degree, in Toronto.

SLOW RECRUITING

On the unemployed field, we can say without hesitation, that the wives of the unemployed have been in the fore-front of the struggle against relief cuts and, in many cases, for clothing relief grants. For these women, kitchen utensils, etc. These women have shown courage, devotion, self-sacrifice and remarkable creative ability.

Then why is it that there is a tremendous gap between our political influence among the working women and our organizational strength? Among the wives of the unemployed there is unity. C. C. F. Communist and non-party women were united in the struggle for bread. Party leadership was whole-heartedly accepted. The correctness of our Party line brought victory in tens of instances. Why is it then that we have not recruited hundreds of women into our Party, that we have not promoted dozens of women in the Party to leading positions? Why is it that proletarian women that are tested in the struggle and rise to great heights, do not find their way into the Party—the Party that they respect and look to as their leader?

This is a basic question that must be answered. In order to be able to do that we must turn the searchlight of Bolshevik criticism on our work among women.

CREATIVE TALENT

Have all of our district taken women's work seriously? In the wake of the decisions of the 7th World Congress, where Comrade Dimitroff said "There cannot be a successful fight against fasc-

ism and war unless broad masses of women are drawn into it and agitation alone will not accomplish this," in the light of our own experience in Canada, have we in the districts raised the work among women to the necessary political level? We must not be frankly, not only our districts have given considerable attention to this phase of work, we can point to others as being apathetic and indifferent to women's work. There are districts where no attempt is made to recruit women into the Party and

where women in the Party? We can anticipate a number of arguments—one will be that we did not have capable women to take charge of this work. This is a poor excuse for, in the first place, the work among women is not the monopoly of the women alone. It is part of our Party work and our men comrades know the Party line and are politically capable of developing this work. Once it is under way it will be surprising to find the talents and creative ability we have among our working women.

Comrade Lenin said, "We can rightly be proud of the fact that in the Party, in the Communist International, we have the flower of revolutionary womanhood but this is not enough. We must win over to our side the millions of toiling women workers and village women as our comrades and in particular, for the Communist transformation of society. There can be no real mass movement without women."

All of us will agree with Comrade Lenin that this is correct, that the decisions of our 7th Plenum, the decisions of the 7th World Congress are correct, and all that remains to be done is to carry these decisions into effect.

Comrade Dimitroff said "Our best resolutions will remain scraps of paper if we lack the people who are to put them into effect." He further stated that Comrade Stalin taught us to "cultivate cadres as a gardener cultivates his favorite fruit tree."

SPANISH EXAMPLE

The question of recruiting women into our Party cannot be separated from the question of developing leading women personnel. The most inspiring example for all of us was when Comrade Dimitroff at the 7th Congress said, "We have examples in our

Parties of promotions which have produced excellent results. For instance, we have a Spanish woman-Communist, sitting in the Presidium of this Congress, Comrade Dolores, two years ago she was still a rank-and-file Party worker. But in the very first clashes with the enemy she proved to be an excellent agitator and fighter. Subsequently promoted to the leading body of the Party, she has proven a most worthy member of that body. Life itself has confirmed this, when today we see our Spanish women in the fore-front of the most heroic struggle against fascism.

We too, right here in Canada, have the possibility to develop in the course of our work and struggle, leaders, women leaders and fighters that will be just as courageous, just as fearless as the heroic daughter of a Spanish cock digger, Dolores.

This introductory article raises the question of recruiting and should be followed up with articles from the comrades and the sections and the districts giving concrete examples of experiences in recruiting and the promotion of women comrades and that can ferent phases of work among women. I do not wish, in this article, to give examples of the different districts that I have personally covered and the districts that I am acquainted with, for I know that we have comrades in Canada that can write with knowledge and experience and I have no desire, in any way, to stifle the initiative of comrades in the field. That is why this article does not go into the details facing each locality. Certainly each one of us should review the past and between now and the Convention thoroughly review the problems involved in our work among women.



ANN BULLER

to boldly promote some to leading positions.

At our last Party Plenum it was recorded that approximately 12 per cent of our membership were women and of these only 4 per cent were factory workers. The districts that have given some attention to women's work will be able at the National Convention, to show an increase in women membership and leading workers. But the increase is not in proportion to the number of women in the Party. How will the districts that relegated women's work to the background explain their failure to boldly recruit